APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROGRAMMABLE
MEMORY ACCESS SLOT ASSIGNMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network switch having switch ports for full-duplex communication of data packets with respective network nodes according to Ethernet (IEEE 802.3) protocol that flexibly assigns memory access slots to access an external memory according to programmable information. A scheduler within an external memory interface assigns the
5   memory access slots to the respective network switch ports according to a programmed sequence written into an assignment table memory from an external programmable data storage device.